

Israeli forces dismantle explosive charge

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 6 (R). — Israeli forces today dismantled an explosive charge in the labour exchange office of Arab occupied East Jerusalem, police sources said. No arrests have been made. It was believed the guerrilla attempt was timed to coincide with yesterday's 10th anniversary of the June 1967, war, the sources said.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

Volume 2, Number 469

AMMAN, TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1977 — JAMADI AL AKHERA 20, 1397

Price : 50 fils

Though results uncertain Ecevit sure he will form next government

ANKARA, June 6 (R). — So. Demirel's conservative Justice Party (JP) made major gains, while seeing its ragged coalition faced with the prospect of extinction. The Justice Party picked up votes from the centre parties whose support is declining, and is likely to have about 180 seats. It won 149 seats in the 1973 election.

The election saw a polarisation around the two big parties -- the RPP and the JP -- as the once-significant centre parties dwindled to one or two parliamentarians each. The only other party to gain strength was the ultra-right Nationalist Movement Party, which won about a dozen seats, compared with three in 1973. Both the NSP and the JP appeared to have gained partly at the expense of the strongly Islamic National Salvation Party (NSP), second-biggest partner in the coalition, after the JP. The NSP was believed to have dropped to less than 30 seats, from the 48 it held in the outgoing parliament. In his first public comment on the election results, Mr. Demirel said today that no party had gained an overall majority and suggested that a new coalition would again be necessary. But he declined to give any seat totals. Speaking to reporters at his party's headquarters here, Mr. Demirel said: "A period of new coalition is awaiting the country. "The question of stability in Turkey still remains unsolved," he added.



DANCE IN THE STREET -- Young supporters of Bulent Ecevit's Republican People's Party dance in the street outside the Ankara main party headquarters at dawn Monday when incoming election results showed that the RPP was winning a majority in Turkey's general elections.

New Seychelles leaders deny alleged Soviet intervention

VICTORIA, Seychelles, June 6 (R). — The new president of the Seychelles denied in a communique today that the Soviet Union had been behind yesterday's coup d'etat in the Indian Ocean island group. Former Prime Minister Albert Rene, who replaced James Mancham as president in the coup, "categorically denies statements made in London by Mr. Mancham that the Soviet Union was behind the coup d'etat which overthrew him."

The communique, issued in the Seychelles capital of Victoria, said that 24 hours after the coup the situation throughout the archipelago 1,000 miles off the Kenyan coast was calm. It said those responsible for the coup wished to remain anonymous for the time being and had asked Mr. Rene to form a new government. The communique added that steps of the former government remain in force until a new administration was formed. It was signed "those responsible for the coup d'etat."

A second communique issued by the same authority said that Mr. Philippe Moulinie, formerly Minister of Port and Maritime Services in Mr. Mancham's coalition government, had seen President Rene this morning and offered his services. The communique said Mr. Moulinie told the people of the island republic in a broadcast they should accept the situation and cooperate with the new government.

Observers said the formulas apparently involved the organization of new general elections, central issue in turmoil triggered by March 7 elections which the nine-party opposition Pakistani National Alliance (PNA) charged were rigged. The elections gave a sweeping victory to Mr. Bhutto's ruling Pakistani Peoples Party (PPP), which like the PNA was holding top level talks tonight on today's "formulas".

The official extent of the long crisis was indicated today by Attorney General Yahya Bakhtiar, who told the Supreme Court in Rawalpindi that 250 people had been killed during 4,653 demonstrations between March 14 and May 27. The PNA stopped its agitation after last Friday's first meeting with Mr. Bhutto in return for major concessions including the release of top PNA leaders and an end to internal censorship of news.

Today's joint communique said the government told the opposition 2,000 people had been released following Friday's meeting, and the cases of 1,000 other imprisoned people were being studied. Observers said the new talks had brought further progress, and Friday's good atmosphere was maintained. Mr. Bhutto and his ministers lunched with the

new government. He was quoted as saying: "I have confidence in Mr. Rene, whose concern for the people of the Seychelles I have appreciated." The communique said Minister of the former government who were abroad would be permitted to return if they recognized the new authorities and took no action which might endanger the security of the country. It added, however, this did not apply to Mr. Mancham, who is in London for the Commonwealth heads of government conference. President Rene was to give

a radio broadcast during the day, the communique said. (In London, Britain's commercial radio network (ITN) had a telephone interview with President Rene and noted that the Seychelles archipelago, would be a fairly valuable strategic base for the Soviet Union. (Mr. Rene said: "Yes, maybe it would. But it certainly will not get control of it. We still attach much importance to (our) non-aligned position." (Mr. Rene also said "we are not communists" and suggested Mr. Mancham made the charges of Soviet backing for the coup for his own ends.)

three opposition negotiators at his residence. Government and opposition intended to reach a settlement as quickly as possible, and would not let the negotiations hang fire, the communique said.

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aimed at patching up relations with the Soviet Union. "Egypt will not have any special relationship with either of the two superpowers, or for that matter even with a smaller country," Mr. Sadat told troops of Egypt's Second Army in Ismailia.

"We deal with all (countries) on an equal basis. We stretch hands of friendship to all those who respect our will." The issues of arms and debts were expected to figure prominently in Mr. Fahmi's two days of talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko starting on Thursday.

President Sadat yesterday began a tour of the Suez Canal area to mark the second anniversary of the reopening of the waterway. The canal, closed after the June 5, 1967 Arab-Israeli war, was reopened in 1975. He held a meeting yesterday with senior aides to discuss foreign and domestic policy.

Reporting the meeting, Cairo newspapers said President Sadat told his aides that during recent talks with President Carter he had been agreed that a Middle East peace settlement should be based on the solution of the Palestine problem, the creation of a Palestinian national homeland and Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories.

The newspapers said President Sadat told the meeting, that he believed the Middle East crisis could be solved if Israel were serious in seeking peace.

Begin issues near ultimatum to DMC

TEL AVIV, June 6 (R). — Israeli President Ephraim Katzir has summoned Likud Party leader Menachem Begin to a meeting tomorrow to ask him to form a new government, the president's office announced today. Under the law, Mr. Begin, whose Likud Party won more parliamentary seats than any other party in last month's general election, would then have 21 days to form a government and could request a further 21 days if necessary.

The announcement followed statements by political sources that Mr. Begin had issued a near ultimatum to the reformist Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) to make up its mind quickly about joining a coalition government. The sources said the Likud Party leader, now assured of a parliamentary majority with or without the DMC since he has the support of the religious parties, wanted to form a new cabinet rapidly.

Attempts by the DMC to find areas of compromise with Likud, particularly on the crucial issue of the occupied Arab territories, have made little progress, the sources said.

Likud and DMC representatives are due to hold a new negotiating session tomorrow, but Likud is unlikely to change its position that the occupied West Bank is an integral part of Israel, the sources added. Likud sources said the party felt it had made all necessary clarifications to the DMC on the occupied areas issue. "We have made clear to DMC that we accept U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. If Prof. (Yigael) Ya-

din (the DMC head) wants more clarifications or wants to make counter proposals, he should do so at tomorrow's meeting," one Likud source said. One reason Mr. Begin might wish to hurry things up is that he is scheduled to make a private trip abroad at the end of the week. The newspaper Maariv said today Mr. Begin had sent U.S. President Carter a message assuring him of willingness to attend peace talks in Geneva, but reiterating opposition to withdrawal from the West Bank. According to Maariv, the message was sent through U.S.

Weizman: Carter must listen to Israel

BONN, June 5 (R). — Israel's defence minister-designate, Mr. Ezer Weizman, said in an interview released today it was time President Carter stopped talking only about a homeland for the Palestinians and considered the wishes of the Israelis.

In an interview with the weekly Stern magazine, the hard-line former air force chief said the new Israeli government rejected President Carter's call for a Palestinian homeland. "We cannot accept Carter's standpoint," he said. Stressing that the occupied West Bank should become "a part of Israel," he said: "There will be no withdrawal from the West Bank. "It is different with the Sinai and the Golan Heights. There we can speak of amending the border. Of course only about small amendments to the present borders -- not a return to those existing before 1967."

Asked whether Israel would create more settlements on the West Bank, he said: "We must have the right to settle everywhere we want. Under one condition that we do not take land from the Arabs. But if we can buy land, or there is free land available, then Israelis should build settlements."

Mr. Weizman said Israel expected strong pressure from the United States to soften its policy on the West Bank. But he said change in the Israeli government came through democratic processes and "the Americans will have to live with it." He added: "It is time that President Carter stopped just talking about a political homeland for the Palestinians and remembered the wishes of the Israeli people."

He said he was hurt by the intensity of the U.S. reaction against the victory of his right-wing Likud Party in last month's election. "I think that was unfair and undemocratic. And I think the Americans are now regretting it."

He also took a swipe at the human rights campaign of the Carter administration, saying that the U.S. stand at the ILO conference shows the "lack of seriousness" of the Americans on the issue of human rights, and that the American human rights campaign "stops at the borders of Tel Aviv".

Other Arab speakers over the coming week are expected to pursue the same theme, though this may now be expected to be toned down in light of this morning's agreement that Mr. Blanchard would continue his efforts to implement the 1974 resolution condemning Israel. It also appears that the dramatic confrontations of last week will be avoided, and that when His Highness Crown Prince Hassan addresses the conference on Friday he will find himself in a businesslike and decorous forum.

King Khaled sends messages to Arab leaders

CAIRO, June 6 (R). — Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal left Cairo tonight for Damascus after a brief visit during which he delivered a message from King Khaled to President Anwar Sadat, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. Mena said the Saudi minister, who arrived earlier in the day, left after meeting President Sadat. It gave no further details. The visit follows the return of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd from talks with U.S. President Carter on the Middle East developments. The Saudi minister will go to Jordan after visiting Syria.

Senator Richard Stone, who left Israel yesterday after talks with Mr. Begin. Mr. Begin also repeated in the message his opposition to the participation in Geneva talks of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. In a separate development, Israeli Defence Minister Shimon Peres said last night a Middle East solution might be found in a political link-up between Israel and the occupied West Bank, or between Israel, the West Bank and Jordan. Speaking at the Hebrew University in occupied Jerusalem, Mr. Peres did not rule out the possibility on Israel withdrawing from some of the territories captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war. Mr. Peres has previously referred to the possibility of creating an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank, and he did not indicate tonight what form a new West Bank political entity might take.

W. Bank general strike marks June 5 war

AMMAN, June 6 (J.T.) — The 10th anniversary of the June 5, 1967 war was marked by a general strike in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip yesterday.

The occasion passed without violence, except for an incident in Nablus, the West Bank's largest town, when some 20 Arab youths tried to set fire to tyres in a main street. Israel border police rushed to the scene and made several arrests.

Sen. Stone visits Damascus, Cairo after consulting with Israelis

DAMASCUS, June 6 (R). — Syrian President Hafez Assad today conferred with U.S. Senator Richard Stone, Chairman of the Senate's Middle East Sub-committee who made a few hours' visit to Damascus. Official sources said the meeting discussed the Middle East situation and U.S. responsibilities towards a just peace in the region.

Senator Stone, who had arrived here earlier today from Israel, also conferred separately with Mr. Mohammed Al Al Hilaibi, speaker of the People's Council (Parliament), and Mr. Abdul Hallim Khaddam, the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, who briefed him on Syria's attitude to the Middle East crisis.

Speaking to Israel Radio shortly before his departure for Damascus after a round of talks with Israeli leaders, Senator Stone said he was convinced a Likud-led cabinet could be formed which could discuss Middle East peace efforts with President Jimmy Carter. "I think the new government will give us the chance for the kind of negotiations for peace that President Carter seeks in the efforts he has made so far -- his willingness and openness to whatever proposals the contending parties might make to you and you might make to them."

Israel Radio said he promised his assistance to Mr. Begin in strengthening his relations with members of the Senate. Senator Stone told Israel Television: "I am very encouraged about the open-mindedness and the willingness to attempt to find peace in every reasonable way consistent with the safety of Israel." Asked if he did not think the new Begin government would be more extreme in its policy than the outgoing one, Senator Stone remarked: "Why do the Israelis always try to hurt themselves?" "I think the new government will be the elected government of Israel and will be for Israel, just as the old government was for Israel. I think it is going to be all right."

Rightist, Israeli guns shell Nabatiyeh, start fire, damage plantation

DON, Lebanon, June 6 (R). — Rightist gunners and Israeli shelled villages in the Nabatiyeh area of southern Lebanon overnight until early today, local residents said. The shelling began about midnight and caused severe damage to plantations in the area starting several fires which lasted until this morning, they reported.

Guerrillas blow up main rail line in Rhodesia

SALISBURY, June 6 (R). — A spokesman for Rhodesian forces today said the line was out of action for seven hours while work was repaired. There was damage to trains or passengers, a communique stated. The line through the central Rhodesian mining district carries chrome, tobacco, copper, zinc, cotton and meat exports through South Africa in defiance of United Nations sanctions imposed on the bel British colony after it declared itself independent in 1965.

The line also brings in consumer goods for the beleaguered white Rhodesians. Military headquarters said explosives were detonated on a line between the small town of Que Que and Gatooma, the main track between the capital of Salisbury and Bulawayo, the country's second largest city. The explosion on the single-track line occurred about 150 miles southwest of Salisbury, first reports said the guerrillas fighting for black majority rule in white-run Rhodesia, had tried to blow up a railway bridge where a train was crossing. On Saturday, guerrillas severed power lines from the Karib dam in northeastern Rhodesia to Salisbury with explosives, blacking out parts of the capital for several hours. Rhodesian troops today were still hunting the saboteurs.

Sadat says in Ismailia Egypt seeks no special relations with either Washington, Moscow

CAIRO, June 6 (R). — Egypt, which unilaterally scrapped a 15-year friendship treaty with the Soviet Union 17 months ago, does not seek a special relationship with either Washington or Moscow, President Sadat said last night. His statement came in advance of a visit to Moscow by Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi

aimed at patching up relations with the Soviet Union. "Egypt will not have any special relationship with either of the two superpowers, or for that matter even with a smaller country," Mr. Sadat told troops of Egypt's Second Army in Ismailia.

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Consultations defuse political tension at ILO meet

GENEVA, June 6 (J.T.) — Extensive consultations over the weekend appear to have defused the intense political tension that had been building up steadily here during the first week of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) annual meeting.

Arab labour ministers and the PLO representative here held a meeting this morning with ILO Director General Francis Blanchard, at which a compromise was worked out, according to senior Arab sources. Mr. Blanchard is now expected to make a public statement to the ILO conference in which he will say that ILO efforts will continue to implement the 1974 resolution condemning Israel for violating the rights of workers in occupied Arab areas.

In exchange, the Arab group of states will withdraw the resolution that had been submitted to the ILO conference on the day, and which called on the ILO and Director General Blanchard to pursue their efforts to implement the 1974 resolution.

The compromise still has to be approved by other senior ILO officials, including the president of this year's conference. It is also expected that the conciliatory Arab posture will meet with some reciprocal move by the United States. The U.S. lost a key procedural vote here on Friday evening, and the widespread feeling among delegates at the conference was that the rigid American stand at Friday's debate was pushing the U.S. into a corner, where it would have to carry out its threat to withdraw from ILO in November. The vote on Friday has probably killed for this year consideration of an American-backed initiative to amend article 17 of the ILO rules. The amendment would virtually bring to an end the ability of member states of the ILO to submit resolution of a "condemnatory" nature, such as the 1974 resolution against Israel. Now that this American effort seems likely to be held over until next year, and the Arab states are pressing ahead with their compromise agreement with Director General Blanchard, the intense political tension is being defused here and the ILO conference will probably get through its remaining two weeks discussing technical issues in committees. But as Friday's acrimonious and heated debate showed, political temperatures can rise at any moment, and thus it is not out of the question that the focal point of the confrontation here, the face-off between the United States and the Arab states, could erupt again in the general debate. The PLO delegate, Mr. Abdul Muhsein Abu Maizer, addressed the conference this morning and delivered a tough condemnation of U.S. policy, Israeli practices in the occupied areas and the conduct of the ILO governing body and Director General Blanchard in implementing the 1974 anti-Israeli resolution. He said the ILO governing body and Mr. Blanchard went "beyond their functions" in saying that their efforts to implement the 1974 resolution had come to a halt. He accused the ILO and Mr. Blanchard of trying to delay implementation of and shelve the resolution, and said that this could only be done by the full ILO conference of authority in all ILO matters. Mr. Abu Maizer said this happened while the Israelis ca-

ried out "daily violations of ILO conventions."

He called U.S. actions "provocative in nature," and said American views and proposals at the ILO are "a dishonest and unjust attempt to prevent the will of the conference from exerting itself, and to allow the Israelis to pursue their attacks against our people." He also took a swipe at the human rights campaign of the Carter administration, saying that the U.S. stand at the ILO conference shows the "lack of seriousness" of the Americans on the issue of human rights, and that the American human rights campaign "stops at the borders of Tel Aviv".

Other Arab speakers over the coming week are expected to pursue the same theme, though this may now be expected to be toned down in light of this morning's agreement that Mr. Blanchard would continue his efforts to implement the 1974 resolution condemning Israel. It also appears that the dramatic confrontations of last week will be avoided, and that when His Highness Crown Prince Hassan addresses the conference on Friday he will find himself in a businesslike and decorous forum.

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Mr. Weizman is confused

Mr. Ezer Weizman, who is tipped to be Israel's next defence minister, not only has a chip on his shoulder but seems to be suffering from some confusion as well.

Mr. Weizman, one of Mr. Menachem Begin's top deputies told the West German weekly magazine Stern that it was about time President Carter stopped talking about a Palestinian homeland and started considering the wishes of the Israeli people.

He seems to have missed the fact that President Carter has been unwavering in his support for the "security of Israel and its right to exist," as he has said on more than one occasion. In fact, what have past and present U.S. administrations been doing since 1948 but taking into consideration the wishes of the Israelis? The only difference now is that Mr. Carter is trying to strike a more balanced pose. For once an American president is trying to take into consideration some of the long neglected wishes of the Palestinians, who have been stripped of their rights and their land in order to keep the Israelis happy. The whole point is that the wishes of the Israelis are not the be-all and end-all of the matter, as Mr. Weizman seems to think. It is to Mr. Carter's credit that he thinks otherwise.

Another point on which Mr. Weizman seems to be confused is in the meaning and applicability of the term democracy. He appears to believe that because the Likud bloc came out on top in the Israeli general elections and might be able to form a coalition government with a majority in the Knesset that it has a right to decide the fate of the West Bank.

The West Bank is not a domestic Israeli issue, Israel does not have sovereignty over the West Bank nor is the West Bank inhabited by Israelis. Whereas a democratically constituted government led by the Likud might represent the Israeli electorate, it cannot by any stretch of the imagination be said to represent the people of the West Bank, who never voted for the Likud or any other Israeli party.

Clearly the Israeli electorate cannot give the Likud the right to dispose of someone else's territory -- that is not what democracy is all about. Mr. Weizman is implying that because his party has a mandate from one group of people it has the right, sanctioned by democratic practice, to decide the fate of another. He is either confused himself or is trying to confuse others.

To say that "the change in the Israeli government came through democratic processes and the Americans will have to live with it," as Mr. Weizman does, is to beg the issue.

The Likud's claim to the West Bank has its roots in a particular interpretation of biblical tradition, not democracy. An expansionist faith in the "promised land" must not be confused with a mandate from the only electorate that matters: the people of the West Bank. Mr. Weizman will have to live with that.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian editorials on Monday were concerned with the continuation of the Israeli campaign against President Carter. However, Al Akhbar was concerned with the role of the Arab oil producing countries in helping poor countries survive.

Al Dustour said that the aggressive Israeli campaign against President Carter culminated when Weizman, the second man in the Likud bloc and prospective defence minister, defined on Sunday what Carter should not talk about.

Weizman asked Carter not to talk about a Palestinian homeland. The paper adds that Weizman stated that Israel refuses Washington's view on the issue and the Likud administration holds to the West Bank as a part of Israel.

The paper commented that in his statements Weizman bypassed all known diplomatic channels used by nations to convey different points of view. Al Dustour adds that what Weizman wanted to do was to embarrass Carter.

According to the paper, it is strange for Weizman to act as such when Begin's envoy is currently in Washington asking the Americans to give the Likud leader's policy a chance to be known.

It seems that the new Israeli rightwing administration is utilising all its potentialities in challenging Carter after it lost hope of changing America's image of Begin. This challenge to Carter by-passed accepted diplomacy.

Al Akhbar's editorial hinted at the West's motives in suggesting the creation of a common fund to aid the Third World.

In order to get the poor countries to lose their say in determining the price of oil and other raw materials the West suggested the establishment of an aid fund with the capital of one billion dollars. The paper adds that naturally the poor countries refused this offer. Such a refusal caused a Western objection similar to the one caused when OPEC determined its own oil prices. The paper warns the Third World countries that as a result of the West's objection to OPEC in determining its oil prices, the West increased the price of its manufactured goods. And this has caused a high rate of inflation throughout the world.

The paper concludes that to stand in the face of Western manoeuvres the Third World countries must strengthen their relations and the Arab oil producing countries must carry out their share in helping poor countries survive economically.

The Commonwealth goes to London

The 21st meeting of Commonwealth leaders since 1944 takes place in London from June 8-16.

Nearly thirty presidents and prime ministers, including people like India's Morarji Desai, Canada's Pierre Trudeau and Zambia's President Kaunda, will be there. It will be the first Commonwealth summit in London since 1968 and the chairman will be Britain's Prime Minister James Callaghan.

The economic state of the rich and the poor, Rhodesia and Namibia, human rights, Cyprus, sporting links with South Africa, technical aid, plans to help young people cope with problems of unemployment -- all these subjects and many more will be discussed in London's handsome 19th century Lancaster House.

Since 1969 the Commonwealth has outgrown its old London meeting place - Marlborough House. The table there is too small to take 35 delegates and their officials. So the venue is now a building full of memories. In Lancaster House in the early sixties colonial leaders once came to thrash out their independence constitutions.

This article, the first of a special series of reports, tells of the very different Commonwealth that is about to meet in that building.

By Derek Ingram

LONDON (Gemin) — Eight years and four summit conferences later the Commonwealth comes back to London on June 8. A larger and very different Commonwealth is now gathering than that which met here during the bitter January of 1969; 35 countries (against 27 in 1969), many new presidents and prime ministers, and a very different range of problems (save, inevitably, Rhodesia) to be chewed over.

Between London 1969 lie the summits of Singapore 1971, Ottawa 1973 and Kingston (Jamaica) 1975. The issues this year will include the progress, or otherwise, made since Kingston towards a new international economic order, the place of politics in sport, human rights, how to help the young people in face of continued and worldwide unemployment, the situation in Cyprus -- and the future of Southern Africa.

More than most Commonwealth summits, the results and mood of this one are unpredictable. Even as the leaders gather some of the big issues are subject to day-to-day changes of emphasis.

For instance, the tone of the debate on a new international economic order -- certain to be the centrepiece of the conference -- will depend very much on assessments of the result of the north-south dialogue in Paris -- the Conference for International Economic Co-operation (CIEC). If the poor countries of the world are dissatisfied with the rich countries' response they could, understandably, be in a disgruntled mood.

People like Prime Minister Michael Manley of Jamaica, host to the last Commonwealth summit could take the view that little has happened in the last two years to indicate a real political will among the rich to move the world towards a new order.

NOTE: Nauru, the 36th, does not attend summit meetings.

The debate will centre on the final report of the Commonwealth Experts' Group -- the so-called Ten Wise Men -- which was delivered to governments a few weeks ago and puts forward a radical programme for change that is not entirely acceptable to the rich countries. Britain's performance at UNCTAD, out of spirit with the summit meeting in Jamaica, is not forgotten, and eyes will be on James Callaghan, chairing a Commonwealth meeting for the first time, for some softening of the British position.

Nothing that has happened since 1975 has made the lot of the poor countries any easier -- the rich-poor gap, as the Commonwealth experts point out, is if anything wider.

On the other hand, it may be said that the Commonwealth is meeting at a time when the new world of Jimmy Carter is unfolding. The radical shift in American policy, putting more

emphasis on Third World countries and recognising their growing importance, is something most Commonwealth states will hope to see reflected in the attitudes of the Commonwealth's industrialised countries. Canada, in any case, is in tune with the Carter line; Britain could become so.

Britain may find itself embarrassed if the discussion turns on South Africa. Commonwealth Third World countries may be looking for backing in the United Nations for a mandatory arms embargo -- so far opposed by the Western members of the Security Council -- and for some indication that Britain will begin to cut down on its investment in South Africa.

Cold shivers must have run down Whitehall's spine when Washington began murmuring about the possibilities of the U.S. pruning its business links with South Africa. British investment in South Africa is huge; though some argue that the shaky British economy does not depend on this investment, it remains true that cutting business with South Africa can do nothing to help it. Yet the prospect may before long have to be faced.

On Rhodesia and Namibia, the accent at Lancaster House will probably be on working out contingency plans for Commonwealth help to get the two countries on their economic feet during the transitional stage to majority rule and after independence. There will be a need for much technical assistance -- something the Commonwealth is well placed to provide.

A hot item could be New Zealand's attitude to sporting contacts with South Africa and the threat that hangs over the future of the Commonwealth Games as a result of it.

The problem mainly is the personal attitude of New Zealand's maverick Prime Minister Robert Muldoon, who, while agreeing to dissuade New Zealand teams from playing with South African teams, refuse to forbid them to do so. He claims that a piece of tissue paper could not be driven between New Zealand's policy and that of Britain and Canada.

But African countries have taken exception to several of Muldoon's remarks, and it is by no means certain that they will take part in the Commonwealth Games at Edmonton, Alberta in 1978.

Without African participation the games would probably be abandoned -- and that would be a severe blow to the Commonwealth as a whole.

It is hoped that this issue will not have to be discussed in the main session of the conference and that it can be resolved in meetings outside in the corridors. Much will depend on how much Muldoon wants to make of it.

New Zealand has no friends on the issue. Australia's Malcolm Fraser disagrees heartily with Muldoon that politics can be kept out of sport; Canada's

Pierre Trudeau is angry that the New Zealand attitude could wreck the games his country is hosting.

On past form, Muldoon is not likely to be put off by the fact that all the rest will be against him, and what he may say is anyone's guess. Muldoon's debut at a Commonwealth conference may not be popular, but it will probably be memorable.

This year's summit has come to London because it is the silver jubilee year of Queen Elizabeth, who is also head of the Commonwealth. Sir Harold Wilson, then Britain's Prime Minister, put the proposal to the Kingston summit.

Not everyone was persuaded that London should be the next venue; President Kaunda invited the conference to Lusaka. But he and the others gave way because of the jubilee.

About 27 or 28 leaders, presidents and prime ministers, are expected in London, with the other countries represented by deputies. Most of the missing figures will be African leaders. Kaunda will be here, but President Nyerere of Tanzania will not.

The reason for his absence is said to be that, having hinted that he intends to retire as president in the next few years, he wants to start involving his Vice-President, Aboud Jumbe, in international affairs. He also believes he should reduce his foreign travel and devote more time in 1977 to Tanzania itself. He is said to have an informal arrangement with his close friend President Kaunda, that if one of them goes to an international conference the other stays at home.

Other absentees include: the leaders of Ghana and Nigeria, Acheampong and Obasanjo, (neither has left their country since they came to power by coup, though Acheampong did once go over the border to Lome); President Kenyatta of Kenya (he never flies long distances for health reasons); Prime Minister Eric Williams of Trinidad (he does not like international conferences and has not been to a Commonwealth summit since 1968); and Amin of Uganda. Prime Minister Forbes Burnham of Guyana may be absent because of bad health.

An old figure returned will be President Banda of Malawi. He has not been to a Commonwealth summit since the 1971 meeting in Singapore.

Some major new leaders will be at the meeting -- notably Prime Minister Morarji Desai of India; President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh and Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser of Australia.

Commonwealth leaders are expecting several positive contributions from Fraser, who has been indicating greatly increased Australian interest in the Commonwealth, and Desai: too is likely to be much more forthcoming in his support of the Commonwealth and to indicate more active Indian participation in its affairs than was the case under Mrs. Gandhi.

ECONOSCOPE By Jawad Ahmed

Israel is a bad investment

"Look at what the Israelis have done over the past twenty five years," a pro-Israeli man said. "You mean, look at what American money has done in Palestine," the sore American taxpayer answered.

The scene occurred in Athens, Georgia in 1974, on the heels of the 1973 oil crisis. It was a time in which Americans began to discover what Israel was costing them.

It is widely publicised in the U.S. that most American aid received by Israel comes from individual contributions. This is misleading, of course; since most contributions come from wealthy Zionist Jewish Americans, Uncle Sam is denied fifty cents on every dollar transferred to Israel in this way.

The 1973 oil embargo proved that the United States was vulnerable, just like any other country. However, the economic vulnerability of the United States has its own built-in cause, apart from the oil embargo. Let me explain.

Although economic fluctuations in the United States and other major industrial countries emanate from internal causes, these fluctuations are led by major durable goods industries. The automobile industry, for instance, has a wide spectrum of horizontal and vertical relations with over fifty thousand smaller industries.

Should the automobile industry suffer a set-

back, this will have a corresponding chain-reaction across the board. The case is similar with the oil industry.

An oil embargo could jeopardise the oil and automobile industries both economically and psychologically, and the threat of a recession may become a reality.

The United States can and must exercise pressure on Israel to be more reasonable on the question of Middle East peace, regardless of who is ruling Israel. It is only American, after all, to try to protect American interests.

The hawk who won the Israeli general elections and are now waving their fists at everybody, including President Carter, must be taught a lesson. American dignity is offended not only by jeers at the International Labour Organisation conference in Geneva, or by the capture of the "Pueblo" (by North Korea in 1968), it is also being offended by the bellicose and irrational remarks emanating from people assumed to be friends and dependents of the United States.

The extremely violent reaction in the West to the Arab oil price hike in 1973 soon subsided under the sobering impact of the facts. The same facts must also push America to subdue the belligerence of its adopted children in Israel.

President Carter is fond of likening himself to President Truman. I hope that will not extend to his relationship with Israel, in view of the extensive change in the situation since 1948.

36 NATIONS AND 1,000 MILLION PEOPLE

Commonwealth members and their leaders

Australia	13 million	Malcolm Fraser, P.M.	M
Bahamas	218,000	Lynden Pindling, P.M.	M
Bangladesh	71 million	Maj. Gen. Ziaur Rahman, Pres.	R
Barbados	254,000	Tom Adams, P.M.	M
Botswana	675,000	Sir Seretse Khama, Pres.	R
Britain	56 million	James Callaghan, P.M.	M
Canada	23 million	Pierre Trudeau, P.M.	M
Cyprus	660,000	Archbishop Makarios, Pres.	R
Fiji	559,000	Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, P.M.	M
The Gambia	495,000	Sir Dawda Jawara, Pres.	R
Ghana	9 million	Gen. I.K. Acheampong, Chairman, Supreme Military Council	R
Grenada	110,000	Eric Gairy, P.M.	M
Guyana	830,000	Forbes Burnham, P.M.	R
India	604 million	Morarji Desai, P.M.	R
Jamaica	2 million	Michael Manley P.M.	M
Kenya	12 million	Jomo Kenyatta, Pres.	R
Lesotho	1 million	Chief Leabua Jonathan, P.M.	M
Malawi	5 million	Kamuzu Banda, Pres.	R
Malaysia	12 million	Datuk Hussein Bin Onn, P.M.	M
Malta	300,000	Dom Mintoff, P.M.	R
Mauritius	881,000	Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, P.M.	M
New Zealand	3 million	Robert Muldoon, P.M.	M
Nigeria	79 million	Lt. Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, Head of the Federal Military Government	R
Papua New Guinea	2.8 million	Michael Somare, P.M.	M
Seychelles	60,000	James Mancham, Pres.	R
Sierra Leone	3 million	Siaka Stevens, Pres.	R
Singapore	2.2 million	Lee Kuan Yew, P.M.	R
Sri Lanka	14 million	Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, P.M.	R
Swaziland	530,000	Col. Maphavu Harry Dlamini, P.M.	M
Tanzania	14.5 million	Julius Nyerere, Pres.	R
Tonga	90,000	Prince Tu'ipelehake, P.M.	M
Trinidad and Tobago	1.2 million	Eric Williams, P.M.	R
Uganda	11 million	Field Marshal Idi Amin Dada, Pres.	R
Western Samoa	151,000	Taisi Tupuola Turfupa Efi, P.M.	R
Zambia	4.5 million	Kenneth Kaunda, Pres.	R
Special member			
Nauru	7,500	Bernard Dowiyogo, Pres.	R

KEY: R - Republic
M - Monarchy (having Queen Elizabeth as monarch)
M* - Monarchy (having monarch other than Queen Elizabeth)

All countries recognise Queen Elizabeth as Head of the Commonwealth

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KUWAITI FUND LOANS JD 10m

JAWAIT, June 6 (R). — Jordan is to get a loan of 8.9 million Kuwaiti dinars (about 10 million) from the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development. It was announced today. The announcement said the loan, repayable over 15 years with a grace period of three years and at 3.5 per cent interest, would be used in financing an expansion phosphate production.

Military team tours UAE

JBAI, June 6 (AFP). — Vice president of the United Arab Emirates and ruler of Dubai Sheikh Rashid Ibn Sa'ud Al Maimun today received an 80-man Jordanian military delegation currently on a tour of the UAE. The delegation reviewed military cooperation with the United Arab Emirates and later visited Sharjah and Ras Al Khaima, where it toured military camps. It arrived here yesterday from Abu Dhabi.

Sharif Nasser opens Islamic art exhibit

AMMAN (JNA). — Sharif Nasser Ibn Jamil opened an exhibition of Islamic art held by the Jordan Crafts Council at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Monday afternoon.

Sharif Nasser toured the exhibition, to finish Tuesday evening. It displays collections of Islamic art, decorations, old Quran manuscripts, carpets, textiles, clothing, arms, household furniture, copper, metal and silver coins, jewellery and ornaments.

The exhibit, the first of its kind in Jordan, highlights the importance of Islamic heritage.

Sharif Nasser told reporters he was very happy to open an exhibition which shows the

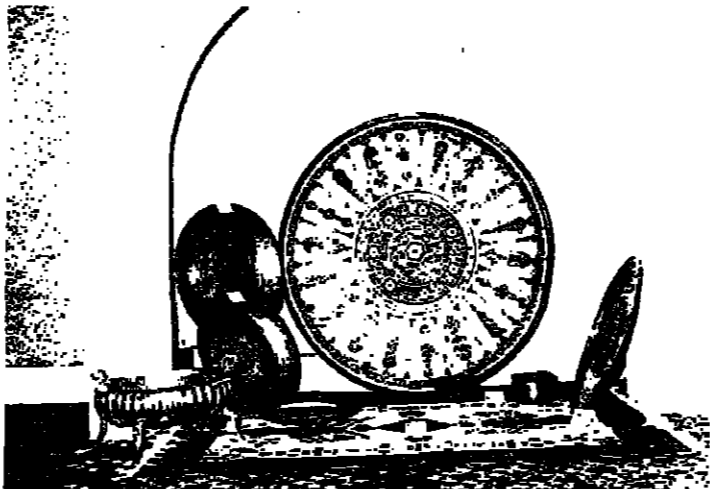
progress achieved by Islamic civilisation.

He said Islamic art, with its beautiful geometric and decorative designs, creates tranquility of mind. It also clearly indicates the quality of life, which the Islamic city enjoyed, he added.

Sharif Nasser urged the need for more care for Islamic heritage. Competent institutions, he said, should collect finds, especially as many foreign countries have been showing increasing interest in the Islamic heritage and art.

"The greatness of Islamic heritage stems from the greatness, the prosperity and the comprehensive nature of Islamic civilisation, which embraced different lands and regions that yielded to Moslem rule throughout the ages," he added.

The opening ceremony was attended by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat, the director general of tourism, the doyen of the diplomatic missions in Amman, a number of ambassadors, a host of artists and fans of Islamic culture.



Brass inlaid with copper and silver -- an example of what can be seen at the exhibition of Islamic art, which remains open until Tuesday evening.

Education minister states Gulf committees to employ teachers here

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Majali returned here Sunday afternoon from a 10-day tour of six Gulf states.

Dr. Majali, leading a Jordanian education delegation, visited Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman and Saudi Arabia.

He stated on his return that he had discussed the possible employment of Jordanian teachers in those countries and signed an agreement on cultural cooperation with the UAE.

It was agreed that selection committees from Gulf states would arrive here soon to employ Jordanian teachers. Any employment, Dr. Majali added, would be done with the approval of the ministry. Discussions also centred on the provision of scholarships.

Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE and Saudi Arabia have agreed to offer scholarships to Jordanian students, the minister stated.

Dr. Majali outlined Jordan's comprehensive education plan during his visits. This met with the approval of Gulf ministers of education, who are planning to adopt similar plans, Dr. Majali said.

SOVIET MILITARY TEAM LEAVES

AMMAN (R). — A Soviet military delegation left here for home today after a week-long visit to Jordan. While here, the delegation met the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and inspected several military institutions and installations.

E. German delegation discusses project aid

AMMAN (JNA). — An East German economic delegation, here on an official visit, resumed talks with Jordanian officials Monday on promoting economic relations between the two countries.

The delegation, which arrived Saturday on a five-day visit, conferred with officials at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the National Planning Council.

In Monday's session, both sides reviewed possible East German participation in Jordan's five-year plan.

The delegation was also received Monday by Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a. Discussions centred on possible participation in agricultural projects.

The East German delegation expressed its readiness to participate in the study and implementation of a number of agricultural projects and to exchange expertise and provide training courses in East Germany for Jordanian technicians.

Talks between the two sides started Sunday when Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr.

Najmeddine Dajani and the ministry's Under-Secretary, Dr. Hashem Dabbas, outlined Jordan's five-year plan.

The delegation expressed its willingness to provide Jordan with the necessary technical assistance and investments for its development projects.

The delegation also met with a number of Jordanian businessmen at the headquarters of the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Sunday afternoon.

This is the first official visit by an East German delegation.

NEW CHIEF JUSTICE NAMED

AMMAN (JNA). — Sheikh Ibrahim Al Kattan was appointed Chief Justice by the Cabinet Sunday. He replaces the late Sheikh Abdallah Ghosheh, who passed away two weeks ago.

Sheikh Al Kattan began his career as a shari'a judge (qadi) in Karak in 1942. Later he was transferred to the Ministry of Education, where he became Minister of Education.

He spent three years with Crown Prince Hassan during his studies at Oxford to teach him Arabic and Islamic studies.

In 1965 he joined the diplomatic service and was appointed ambassador in Morocco, Kuwait, Pakistan, Malaysia and Indonesia.

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VIVIEN	JUNE 15/20	20/21	JUNE 21/27	22/28	JUNE 28/JULY 7	22/28	JULY 20/21	AUG. 9/10	AUG. 11/12	AUG. 16/17	AUG. 11					
IZUMO MARU	JULY 29/29	20/21	JULY 30/AUG. 4	29/28	JULY 28/JULY 7	22/28	AUG. 20/21	SEPT. 9/10	SEPT. 11/12	SEPT. 16/17	SEPT. 11					
KAI MARU	JULY 20/22	20/21	JULY 29/28	29/28	JULY 30/AUG. 7	22/28	AUG. 20/21	SEPT. 9/10	SEPT. 11/12	SEPT. 16/17	SEPT. 11					
YAMAGUCHI MARU	AUG. 29/29	20/21	AUG. 30/SEPT. 4	29/28	AUG. 22/28	22/28	SEPT. 20/21	OCT. 9/10	OCT. 11/12	OCT. 16/17	OCT. 1					
YAMANASHI MARU	AUG. 20/22	20/21	AUG. 29/28	29/28	AUG. 30/SEPT. 7	22/28	SEPT. 20/21	OCT. 9/10	OCT. 11/12	OCT. 16/17	OCT. 12					
ISE MARU	SEPT. 28/28	20/21	SEPT. 29/OCT. 4	29/28	SEPT. 22/27	22/28	SEPT. 20/21	OCT. 9/10	OCT. 11/12	OCT. 16/17	OCT. 31					
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Saudi Arabia will raise its oil price 5% in July reports oil publication

NICOSIA, June 6 (AFP). — Saudi Arabia will raise its oil price five per cent next month as a result of the outcome of the north-south dialogue, according to the publication Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) here today.

Last January 11 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) raised their prices 10 per cent and planned a five per cent rise in July, whereas Saudi Arabia and the Emirates opted for a once-only five per cent rise last January.

The MEES said that Saudi Arabia would increase its rates five per cent in July, and that the other 11 would abandon their five per cent increase.

In this way, OPEC would get back to a unified pricing system after operating a "two-tier" system for six months, the publication said.

It further said that Saudi Arabia would bring its daily output back to 8,500,000 barrels a day from 10 million barrels. It would as a result sign no more new sales contracts this year.

Second fire hits Saudi Arabia's Abqaiq Field

BEIRUT, June 6 (R). — Fire has broken out at one of Saudi Arabia's biggest oilfields for the second time in less than a month.

But the Saudi press agency said Saturday's fire in the Abqaiq Field was soon extinguished and exports would not be affected.

The causes of the fire, a ruptured pipe and intense heat were the same as those which triggered an inferno which raged in the same field for days last month. Officials said there would be more such fires because of the age of the pipeline.

The Saudi press agency ruled out sabotage in the fire, but official denials of guerrilla action being at the root of the May blaze have not prevented press speculation on the subject.

The Beirut daily Al Anwar, generally well-informed on Saudi affairs, said reports had been submitted to Saudi officials saying that a certain country was behind the fire, but it did not name the country.

There was no word on any casualties in the fire. One man was killed in last month's.

The Abqaiq Field has been functioning for more than 30 years and it is Saudi Arabia's second biggest onshore oilfield, producing around a tenth of the kingdom's overall oil output. The biggest customer is Japan.

Though the official sources

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London Foreign Exchange Market Friday. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

one sterling =	1.7178 / 80	U.S. dollars
one dollar =	2.3557 / 67	West German marks
	2.4645 / 60	Dutch guilders
	2.4860 / 75	Swiss francs
	369045 / 006	Belgian francs
	4.9450 / 70	French francs
	885.40 / 60	Italian lire
	276.25 / 35	Japanese yen
	4.3940 / 50	Swedish crowns
	5.2450 / 60	Norwegian crowns
	6.0135 / 60	Danish crowns

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices took a fairly sharp dive in moderate trading Monday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average lost more than nine points.

Investors, who had showed some cautious optimism last week, apparently changed their minds today as old inflation and interest rate fears came back to haunt the stock market.

Losers led gainers by a moderate margin at the close (754 to 602). Blue chip and glamour issues were the main victims today as Kodak lost 1-3/8 to \$58, Dupont 2-3/4 to 116-3/4 and General Motors 7/8 to 66-1/8. Auto, chemical, steel, oil, computer and department store issues were generally lower, but paper, aluminum, gold mine and motion picture stocks closed on a steady tone.

Twentieth Century Fox kept rising and gained 1-1/2 to 21-1/8 in active trading. This stock has risen sharply in the past few sessions following the success met by the company's latest picture in the U.S. (Star Wars).

At the close, the industrial average shows at 903.07, a loss of 9.16 points; Transp at 235.73, a loss of 1.41; utilities at 111.93, a gain of 0.16. 18,930,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,340,000 during the last hour.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

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The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency.

U.K. sterling	569.0	575.0
U.S. dollar	330.0	332.0
German mark	140.5	140.9
French franc	66.9	67.2
Swiss franc	133.1	133.5
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.4	37.6
Japanese yen	119.8	120.2
Lebanese pound	107.6	108.1
Saudi riyal	93.0	93.3
Syrian pound	80.8	81.0
Iraqi dinar	940.0	945.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,146.0	1,150.0
Egyptian pound	460.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	800.0	810.0
U.A.E. dirham	84.3	84.8

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HORSE RACING RESULTS

FIRST RACE

FOR LOCAL COUNTRY HORSES,

BEGINNERS

DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

The first : JAWWAL

Owner : Saif H. Majali

Time : 1.443 minute

The second : SIT EL KHAIL

Owner : Rashid Odeh

The Third : NADIA

Owner : Tawfiq Ksous

WIN : 200 fils — 500 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — JD 15



SECOND RACE

FOR BEGINNER HORSES

DISTANCE 1,000 METRES

The first : MAHASIN

Owner : Sami Yaqoub

Time : 1.9 minute

The second : TAJ EL AROUS

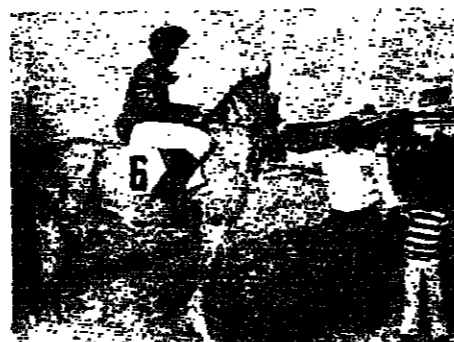
Owner : Sherifeh Nofah Naser

The third : EL YAMAMEH

Owner : Faiek Kawar

WIN : 200 fils — 350 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — 700 fils



THIRD RACE

FOR BEGINNER HORSES

DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

The first : HAMAMIT EL WAFI

Owner : Faiek Kawar

Time : 1.36 minute

The second : EL HABBAB

Owner : Tawfiq Ksous

The third : KHAILAN

Owner : El Talia'a Stable

WIN : 200 fils — 350 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — JD 2.4



FOURTH RACE

FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,000 METRES

The first : NAHLAWI

Owner : Samir E. Farkouh

Time : 1.8 minute

The second : SABHAN

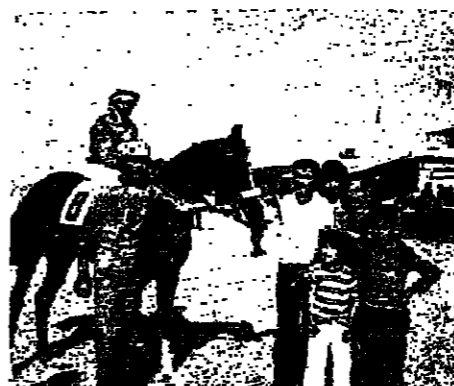
Owner : El Talia'a Stable

The third : MOSTINK

Owner : Wassef Bisharat

WIN : 200 fils — 400 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — JD 20



FIFTH RACE

FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

The first : JOHAR AMMAN

Owner : Sherifeh Nour Naser

Time : 1.50,1 minute

The second : WADI AMAL

Owner : Ali A. Soukout

The third : MARHAB

Owner : Saif Majali

WIN : 200 fils — 400 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — JD 1.8

DOUBLE TOTE : 400 fils — JD 11

SIXTH RACE

FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS HORSES

DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

The first : BAYADIR

Owner : Wassef Bisharat

Time : 1.48 minute

The second : SINAJ

Owner : Saif Majali

The third : SABIR AYYOUB

Owner : Tawfiq Ksous

WIN : 200 fils — 250 fils

TWIN : 400 fils — JD 1.1

2 released hostages tell of drama aboard captive Dutch train

ASSEN, Holland, June 6 (Agencies) — Two pregnant women, the first passengers released from a train hijacked more than two weeks ago by South Moluccan gunmen, today said the 53 remaining hostages were under great psychological pressure.

Mrs. Nelleke Ellenbroek-Prinsen, 23, and Mrs. Annie Brouwer-Korf, 31, issued a brief statement to the press before leaving hospital in Groningen, near here, where they spent last night.

Giving the first inside account of life in the cramped train, they said the guerrillas had treated their prisoners "correctly" since they seized the Inter-City Express on May 23, and that the hostages, held at gunpoint by 10 guerrillas, were under great psychological stress.

Their statement, read to reporters by Mrs. Brouwer-Korf, said the greatest problems the hostages faced were physical inactivity and boredom.

Lack of exercise had given

some of them "slight physical pains", most constipation. As a result government officials have altered the menu of meals sent to the train to give the hostages more roughage in their diet.

To combat boredom, the government has sent on board supplies of games, puzzles, books, knitting and sewing materials to help the hostages pass the time.

Of the 35 men among the captives, some had already taken up knitting or sewing, and extra quantities of wool and knitting needles had been sent to the train to meet the higher-than-expected demand, government officials here said.

The two pregnant women were later driven off to undisclosed destinations. A Justice Ministry spokesman said that "in the interests of the remaining hostages and their families" they would give no press interviews until the sieges were over.

More gunmen were still holding four teachers in a nearby villa-

ge schoolhouse from which more than 100 children were freed a week ago. They too are in their 15th day as hostages of the Moluccans.

"This could still go on for days and days," a Justice Ministry spokesman said last night.

The impression is growing here that the gunmen's only aim maybe to keep the sieges going for as long as possible.

According to an official Dutch spokesman, the Moluccans have dropped, in their negotiations with the two mediators who went aboard the train at the weekend, all their original demands -- the release of 21 fellow countrymen imprisoned for political violence and safe passage to an as yet undisclosed destination.

Yesterday's release of the two women came "out of the blue" according to officials, and no concessions were made in return.

The government had pleaded in vain for two weeks for the release of 23-year-old Mrs. Nelleke Ellenbroek-Prinsen, who is five months pregnant. But the pregnancy of Mrs. A.H. Brouwer-Korf, 31, came as a surprise. Spokesmen said she may only have learned of her condition during her captivity.

There was a joyful reunion for both women with their husbands at the end of their journey to hospital, but they also had to face questioning from police about conditions on the train.



FREE -- Mrs. Annie Brouwer-Korf and her husband (right) and Mrs. Nelleke Ellenbroek-Prinsen are all smiles as they face newsmen at Groningen's Hospital Monday morning. The two pregnant women were released by South Moluccan gunmen Sunday afternoon after three weeks' captivity in a hijacked train in the north of Holland. (AP wirephoto).

MEA's hijacker questioned in Kuwait

KUWAIT, June 6 (R). — Security officials today questioned a 27-year-old Lebanese cripple, who hijacked a Middle East Airlines (MEA) Boeing 707 and demanded a 1.5 million Kuwaiti dinar (\$3 million) ransom before being overpowered by commandos aboard the plane here.

The 105 passengers and 10 crew were freed unharmed.

The hijacker, who boarded the plane in Beirut in a wheelchair, shot at the commandos when they attacked at dawn today but was seized before anybody was hurt.

About one hour after flying from Beirut towards Baghdad

the hijacker produced a pistol and a hand grenade in mid-flight.

The passengers were mainly Arabs but several British and American businessmen and three infants were on board.

The hijacker, identified as Mr. Nasser Mohammad Ali Abu Khaled, later claimed that his motive for seizing the plane was to get medical treatment.

Airport sources said he forced the pilot to land in Kuwait last night despite attempts by authorities here to make the plane fly on by closing the airport.



HIJACKER — Kuwaiti officials surround Mr. Abu Khaled, the crippled Lebanese who hijacked an MEA Boeing to Kuwait Sunday. (AP wirephoto)

Security stepped up for Queen Elizabeth's silver jubilee procession in London today

LONDON, June 6 (R). — Security men crawled through the labyrinth of drains below London's streets tonight carrying out checks right up to the last minute before Queen Elizabeth rides by in her silver jubilee procession tomorrow.

Along the route of the procession, despite light showers of rain and a chilly breeze, hundreds of people were already camped with blankets, sandwiches and flasks to be sure of good viewing positions.

They included teen-agers and several hardy middle-aged women sitting solemnly beneath

umbrellas on the pavements, drinking tea from cartons.

In gold state Noach, accompanied by armoured cavalry and scarlet-coated guardsmen, the 51-year-old monarch will ride just over 3.5 kms. tomorrow from Buckingham Palace to St. Paul's Cathedral for a thanksgiving service marking her 25 years of reign.

Britons are forgetting their economic troubles of the past few years for a week of festivities beginning today with thousands of street parties, village fests, mediaeval joustings and ox-roastings.

Late tonight the Queen will light a bonfire in the parklands around Windsor Castle, on London's western outskirts.

In the same way as the country was alerted against the Spanish Armada in 1588, wa-

chers from surrounding hills-top will set other beacons blazing as soon as they see the flames rise from the first bonfire.

Within minutes 102 bonfires will be burning in a network stretching across Britain from the Channel Islands to the remote northern Orkney Islands.

The Queen also planned to light a torch to be flown to Australia to touch off a chain of 3,000 bonfires there.

Tourist authorities say about five million visitors, half of them foreign tourists, are in London for the celebrations. The city is covered in flags and streams of patriotic red, white and blue decorations.

Leftwing groups have launched anti-jubilee campaigns, with posters and badges crit-

cising the monarchy as out-dated, but the Queen is generally felt to be soundly popular, and thousands of well-wishing letters have poured into the palace.

He said Britain's decision not to allow Uganda to participate in the summit had already created differences among member states, and there were indications that many of them would not be represented at a high level.

The radio quoted a message from Nigerian head of state Lt-Gen. Olesgun Obasanjo which it said, expressed concern at a letter from British Prime Mini-

Moroccan minister says elections were rigged

RABAT, June 6 (R). — Moroccan Socialist Party leader Abderrahim Bouabid said today he was resigning as minister of state without portfolio, charging that last Friday's general elections were rigged in favour of pro-government candidates.

M. Bouabid was defeated by one of the pro-government candidates, who won 81 seats in parliament at the expense of the Socialists who won 16.

Along with the leaders of three other parties, M. Bouabid was appointed minister of state by King Hassan last March. The role of the four party leaders was to supervise the conduct of the elections.

The Socialist leader, who said the people's choice had been falsified by "incredible proportions", said a decision on whether to withdraw Socialist members from parliament would be taken at a party meeting later.

He said that "indecent manipulations and falsifications" in the elections meant that Morocco's experiment in democracy had "sunk into the most gross manoeuvres."

M. Bouabid said hundreds of Socialist Party supporters were arrested, assaulted or threatened by the authorities during the election campaign, and some were still under arrest.

Coup d'etat fails in Comoro Island

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar, June 6 (R). — A "very rich man" was the brains behind an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow Comoros Island President Ali Solih by young dissidents yesterday, Comoro Radio reported last night.

The radio, monitored here, did not name the man but quoted "one of those detailed in connection with the incident as saying one of them had agreed to kill President Solih for one million Central African francs (about \$2,300).

The dissidents yesterday occupied an airport on Anjouan Island, part of the Comoros Archipelago in the Indian Ocean off the east coast of Africa.

The radio reported that the demonstrators took over the airport "to protest against the regime which they accused of failing to respect human rights."

It said 36 people, including several women, had been arrested so far, adding that inquiries were still going on.

Suspects were being detained under a novel "free imprisonment" system because there are no prisons on the island following the president's decision earlier this year to abolish them as part of an administrative overhaul.

Some of the detainees were interviewed on Comoro Radio last night. They said the coup attempt had been prepared several months in advance, and revealed that one of them had agreed to kill the president for money.

A spokesman for the Central Revolutionary Committee governing the country said on the radio that the Anjouan local branch had warned military officials on the island of a subversive movement but they had not passed on the warning because some of them sympathised with the dissidents.

According to the radio there appears to be a tribal basis to the affair.

Anjouan is considered to be grossly overpopulated. In recent years many of its citizens emigrated to Madagascar, but following bloody clashes with local inhabitants there last December about 15,000 were repatriated.

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Libya, Egypt will meet to discuss relations

BEIRUT, June 6 (R). — The Libyan authorities have halted the propaganda campaign against Egypt following the announcement that the two countries are to meet to discuss their strained relations.

In a report from the Libyan capital of Tripoli the Iraqi News Agency said the campaign was called off from mid-night on Saturday. The announcement of the talks was made Saturday in Cairo.

Prime Minister Mamdouh Salem and Mr. Abdul Ati Al Abedi, First Secretary of the Libyan Jamahiriya's General Peoples' Committee, will meet in the Egyptian capital shortly.

The announcement of the talks was made by Mr. Bashir Al Rabti, President of the Federal Assembly of Arab Republics.

The Egyptian Middle East News Agency quoted him as saying after meeting President Anwar Sadat Saturday in Al-

exandria that the agreement was "an important step towards patching up long overdue differences between the two countries which affected the march towards liberation (of occupied Arab territories)."

Mr. Al Rabti, a Libyan, is due to fly to Tripoli shortly to fix a date for the proposed meeting.

Observers in Cairo said the fact that the two countries had agreed to meet was a success, in view of their steadily deteriorating relations in the past two years.

Attempts at reconciliation by several Arab leaders, including Mr. Al Rabti, have failed in the past, but new hopes of a thaw in relations followed what some observers described as a relatively moderate speech a few days ago by Col. Qadhafi.

He told a mass rally in Tripoli that this country could forget its differences with Egypt to get pan-Arab unity against Israel.

Some observers are asking what the points of agreement between the prime minister and his predecessor are not more important than their differences for the parties in power; or even if the split between the leaders could not become an electoral trump card.

But the majority appears to need more than one trump to win next March. If one can believe the latest opinion poll, carried in yesterday's Journal du Dimanche, 70 per cent of the French believe the union of the left is going to win.

Andrew Young wants Idi Amin to disappear from earth's face

WASHINGTON, June 6 (AFP). — America's black Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young wants Ugandan President-for-Life Idi Amin Dada to "disappear from the face of the earth."

Playboy magazine reported yesterday.

In an interview with Playboy, Mr. Young noted that Field Marshal Amin was building a 14-storey building next to the U.S. mission to the U.N. in New York. The American building has only 12 floors.

"I can just see him now coming over here and, you know, pissing on the American Embassy," Mr. Young told the monthly magazine.

"My faith is that all men can be saved," Mr. Young declared. "But I didn't want Hitler to be saved and I don't want Idi Amin to be saved."

Prime Minister James Callaghan wrote to him last month suggesting that he should stay away and leave Uganda to be represented by a lower-level delegation.

President Amin, who earlier had said he would go to London "whether they (the British) like it or not" was quoted by Uganda Radio yesterday as saying Britain had decided not to allow Uganda to attend.

But he said Uganda would be represented at the next conference in two years time.

President Amin has not been to a Commonwealth conference since he came to power six years ago.

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Brezhnev: New constitution protects citizens rights but not when they "cause harm to state interests"

MOSCOW, June 6 (R). — Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev pledged in a speech published here yesterday that there would be no return to the "illegal repressions" practised under dictator Joseph Stalin.

The Kremlin chief's promise came in a lengthy address delivered to the Communist Party Central Committee on May 24, the full text of which has not been disclosed until yesterday.

The speech, which dealt with the new Soviet draft constitution, was unusually frank about the late 1930s, when under Stalin's rule millions of Soviet citizens were sent to labour camps or executed without trial.

"We know comrades, that some years after the adoption of the current constitution were darkened by illegal repressions, violations of the principles of socialist democracy. Le-

ninist norms of party and state life," he said.

"This was done in contravention of the constitutional provisions. The party has resolutely condemned this practice and it should never be repeated," he said.

The party chief was contrasting the current constitution -- introduced in 1936 just as Stalin's purges were being launched -- with the new draft, drawn up under the guidance of Mr. Brezhnev and published last weekend.

In his speech, Mr. Brezhnev referred to the experience of other Communist countries who have combined the party chief's post with head of state.

"In the seventies, Bulgaria, the GDR (East Germany), Cuba and some other socialist countries adopted new constitutions. They contain a number of provisions of interest to us and they have not been left out of attention," Mr. Brezhnev said.

The Kremlin chief said that the new draft retained the basic rights -- such as freedom of speech -- guaranteed under the 1936 constitution, and also added other rights such as the choice of profession, the right to housing and secondary education.

But the civil rights provided for in the new constitution -- the fourth in the history of the Soviet Union -- appeared to be more rigidly qualified than in the 1936 charter.

Mr. Brezhnev stressed that "the rights and freedoms of citizens cannot and must not be used against our social system and to damage the interests of the Soviet people."

"That is why the draft says directly for example that the exercise of the rights and freedoms by citizens should not damage the interests of society and state and the rights of other citizens," he said.

"It is necessary for every Soviet citizen to understand clearly that the main guarantee of his rights in the final analysis is the might and prosperity of our homeland," he said.

The draft says that in exercising their rights, Soviet citizens should not "cause harm to the interests of society and the state," and were obliged to observe Soviet laws.

Under the criminal code, any activity classified by the authorities as anti-Soviet is illegal. Soviet authorities say that action taken against political dis-

sidents is because they are breaking law, and not because they are expressing their opinions.

Mr. Brezhnev also drew attention to the importance attached to the Communist Party in the new constitution.

"One should note in the first place that it (the draft) gives a comprehensive description of the leading and guiding role of the Communist Party and clearly reflects the real place of our party in the Soviet society and state," he said.

"The new draft constitution also points out that developed socialist society has been created in the USSR and that the supreme goal of the Soviet state is building communism," he said.

As Communist chief, Mr. Brezhnev's position is clearly strengthened by any upgrading of the party's role in Soviet society -- fuelling speculation still further that he is preparing to step into the presidential shoes.

Another indicator that Mr. Brezhnev would soon assume the dual president-party chief role was his stress on the close links between the party and foreign policy-making.

The party's role "has become even more responsible and the scope of its directing influence on the entire domestic life and its foreign policy has grown," he said.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

- * MOSCOW, June 6 (AFP). — French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud held "friendly and open" talks today with his Soviet counterpart Andrei Gromyko, French sources said. The sources said the talks dealt mainly with preparation of texts to lay the groundwork for the visit to Paris by Soviet party leader Leonid Brezhnev, scheduled for June 20-22. A scheduled meeting of Mr. de Guiringaud and Mr. Brezhnev, the sources added, has been postponed from this afternoon until tomorrow morning.
- * KHARTOUM, June 6 (AFP). — The Soviet Union has ended military training courses for Sudanese army officers in apparent retaliation for Sudan's expulsion last month of 90 Soviet military experts and a demand that the Soviet Union reduce its Khartoum embassy staff, the daily Al Sahafa reported yesterday. The officers who have now returned to Sudan were receiving training in flight and air defence methods and in other military fields in the Soviet Union under a joint armament agreement, Al Sahafa said.
- * BELGRADE, June 6 (AFP). — President Josip Broz Tito plans successive visits in August to the Soviet Union, North Korea and China it was disclosed today. Italian Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani, who met the Yugoslavian head of state today, bared the travel plans at a reception at the Italian Embassy. Mr. Forlani met Mr. Tito for one hour and 20 minutes, a half-hour longer than scheduled.
- * KINSHASA, June 6 (R). — President Mobutu Sese Seko yesterday announced a reorganisation of Zaire's armed forces to counter any future attack on the Shaba province, the official AZAP news agency reported. President Mobutu said in the town of Mbandaka that his troops had suffered "a moral defeat during the first days" of the March invasion of the province in the south-east of the country by what he called "mercenaries from Angola", the agency reported.
- * PARIS, June 6 (R). — A self-styled revolutionary group has threatened to execute on Saturday a senior Fiat car company executive, kidnapped here in April, unless the Italian firm meets its demands, a Paris newspaper reported today. The daily Le Monde said it had received the threat from the "Committee for Revolutionary Socialist Unity" (CURS) saying that the head of Fiat in France, Signor Luciano Revelli-Beaumont, would be executed after midnight on Friday.

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